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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A sheet finishing apparatus has a stacking tray for stacking sheets formed with indicia; a processing tray on the stacking tray for receiving sheets; a movable aligning plate on the processing tray that moves traverse to the direction of discharge of the sheets; with a plurality of aligning operations. The first aligning operation has a distance of $L1$ from the aligning position of the movable aligning plate to the first aligning operation starting position. The last aligning operation is a distance of $L2$ from the aligning position of the movable aligning plate to the final aligning operation starting position. $L1 > L2$ for the last sheet of a plurality of sheets in a set. A first and second aligning operation are performed on each of a set of sheets. The distance from the aligning position in the second aligning operation to the aligning start position is $L1$, wherein $L1 > L2 > L3$.